RBI. Whenever a complaint relating to non-implementation/non-compliance of RBI instructions is received, the same is taken up with the concerned banks for remedial action.

Posting of Regional Rural Bank Staff, Srinagar

4286. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the migrant staff of Regional Rural Bank, Srinagar were posted at different Regional Rural Banks;

(b) if so, how many employees of the Srinagar Regional Rural Bank were posted in different areas;

(c) whether his Ministry has given the choice of place of postings to those employees who did not obey the earlier orders (order No. F. 7/32/90-RRB) dated 16th November, 1990;

(d) whether he has received any representation from the migrant staff who obeyed the orders in July, 1991 and were posted in different States, regarding the plight of their families;

(e) whether it is also a fact that those who obeyed the Minister's orders were given posting at far flung areas and those who did not obey the orders were later given the choice of place of postings; and

(f) if so, what remedial measures are likely to be taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The re-deployment orders of 181 employees of Ellaquai Dehati Bank (EDB), Srinagar were issued in November, 1990 to other Gramin Banks in different parts of the country.

(c) On the representations of a number of employees, which included lady employees also, who were unable to take up new assignments due to various reasons, the re-deployment orders of 102 such employees were issued in June/July, 1992.

(d) to (f) Any specific request of any employee for his re-deployment or adjustment will be considered by the Chairman of the Bank and Government on merits of the case.

Steps to Reduce Unproductive Expenditure

4287. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scope to reduce unproductive administrative expenditure during the current year and if so, to what extent;

(b) what concrete steps have been taken by Government to reduce Governmental expenditure at Ministers' and Secretaries' level; and

(c) what is the impact of economy and austerity measures taken so far and the resultant savings therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) With a view to ensuring reduction in administrative expenses, measures already taken have been continued during the current year also. These measures include 20 per cent cut in travelling allowance budget, reduction in consumption of petrol/diesel, surrender of 10 per cent telephones, ban on holding conferences/seminars/workshops; ban on lunches/dinners at Government cost; ban on purchase of vehicles; ban on use of decorative lighting; curtailment in expenditure on consumption of electricity etc. Efforts to keep a check on expenditure is a continuous process and it is not possible to indicate the scope of reduction in quantitative terms.

(b) Steps taken to reduce expenditure at Ministers and Secretaries

level specifically include, inter alia, use of only one car even if a Minister is holding charge of more than one Ministry/Department and not to use vehicles of Public Sector Undertakings/Autonomous Bodies, etc., ban on first class Air travel during tours abroad and ban on accommodation in hotel suites by Secretary level officers while on tour.

(c) As the expenditure on various items is not compiled centrally, it is difficult to quantify the amount of resultant savings.

Conflicting signals on Inflation

4288. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report in the 'Indian Express' of June 24, 1992 captioned, "Conflicting signals on inflation";

(b) if so, what was the actual rate of inflation registered during 1991-92 calculated on the basis of WPI and how it was at variance with that projected in the Budget presented by him for the current year, 1992-93; and

(c) how far the inflation rate has since been contained month to month from April, 1992 onwards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Central Budget for 1992-93 indicated Government's determination to bring down the rate of inflation substantially in the fiscal year 1992-93. The annual rate of inflation has been brought down from 13.6 per cent at the end of 1991-92 to 9.1 per cent on week ending August 1, 1992. The month end inflation rates from April, 1992 onwards are given below:

Inflation Rate (Point-to-point) in terms of WPI (Base : 1981-82-100)

Month-end	Per cent
March, 1992	13.6
April, 1992	13.6
May, 1992	12.9
June, 1992	11.3*
Juy, 1992	9.3*

* Provisional.

Fraud in Income Tax Refund

4289. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that, recently, a fraud case of Income Tax Refund order was detected in the National Capital;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what was the total amount of money which was refunded under the bogus orders; and

(d) what is the amount of money that was refunded by the Income Tax Department throughout the country during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In January, 1992, a Case of fraud relating to Income Tax refunds came to the notice of the Reserve Bank of India and the Income Tax Department. On verification, it was found that the Refund Order Books from which refund orders were fraudulently issued were missing. Enquiries in respect of the fraudulent